

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 08103 190634Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 INR-07 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 /042 W
----- 059908 /16
R 180459Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6610

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 8103

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MA, RP
SUBJECT: DAO RESPONSIBILITIES

REF: A) DIA 131630Z DEC 76 B) STATE 059877 (75)

1. MY COOPERATIVE AND HELPFUL DAO HAS BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION
REF. A WHICH MENTIONS IN PART THAT "DAO HAS AUTHORITY TO
REPORT FULLY AND DIRECTLY TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND THE
DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. RESTRICTIONS ON
COMMUNICATIONS TO EITHER FROM ANYONE OTHER THAN THE SECRETARY
OF DEFENSE OR THE DIRECTOR OF DIA, MUST BE APPROVED BY THE
SECRETARY OR DIRECTOR AS APPROPRIATE BEFORE BEING ACTED UPON."
THE SAME MESSAGE NOTES THE CHIEF OF MISSION, HOWEVER, DOES
HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO RESTRICT OR PROHIBIT LATERAL DISTRIBUTION
OF DIA MESSAGES.

2. WE NOTE THAT SECTION 12 OF PL 93-475 (REF. B) PASSED BY
THE CONGRESS AND SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT INTO LAW STATES
THAT "THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY SHALL HAVE
FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DIRECTION, COORDINATION,
AND SUPERVISION OF ALL USG OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES IN
THAT COUNTRY....., AND ANY DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY HAVING
OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WITHIN A COUNTRY SHALL IN-
SURE THAT ALL OF (THEM) COMPLY FULLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE
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DIRECTIVES OF THE AMBASSADOR." THIS IS NOT A MATTER OF
REGULATION, IT IS A STIPULATION OF PL 93-475.

3. THE EMBASSY CAN IMAGINE AN UNDESIRABLE SITUATION
OCCURRING WHEN SOME HIGHLY SENSITIVE MATTER MIGHT COME TO
THE ATTENTION OF THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE -- WHICH WOULD

THEN WANT TO INFORM DOD OR DIA. IN SUCH A SITUATION WE
BELIEVE THE AMBASSADOR UNDER PL 93-475 HAS COMPLETE
AUTHORITY TO CONFINE ALL REPORTING TO THE STATE CHANNEL.

4. SUCH SITUATIONS DO NOT ARISE VERY OFTEN, BUT IMPORTANT
MATTERS WOULD BE INVOLVED IF THEY DO.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO CLARIFY FOR
DIA THIS MATTER CONCERNING THE AMBASSADOR'S AUTHORITY AND
OBLIGATIONS UNDER PL 93-475 -- TO CONFINE REPORTING, IF
NEED BE, TO STATE CHANNELS.
PORTER

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